

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 06486 190608Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/066 W

-----031444 191500Z /45

R 180818Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8840  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMCONSUL MEDAN  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMCONSUL SURABAYA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT, ID  
SUBJECT: GENERAL DARYATMO ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF PARLIAMENT

1. SUMMARY. GENERAL DARYATMO, FORMERLY CHIEF OF STAFF OF KOPKAMTIB (COMMAND FOR THE RESTORATION OF SECURITY AND ORDER), WAS UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED TO SUCCEED ADAM MALIK AS CHAIRMAN OF PARLIAMENT (DPR) AND OF THE PEOPLE'S CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY (MPR) ON MAY 18, HAVING RECEIVED THE NOMINATIONS OF ALL FOUR PARLIAMENTARY FACTIONS. A CAREER SOLDIER, DARYATMO SERVED FOR MANY YEARS AS CHIEF OF THE FUNCTIONAL STAFF AT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND SECURITY, WHERE HE CONTROLLED ASSIGNMENTS OF MILITARY MEN TO CIVILIAN POSITIONS AND CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMS. NOW IN A CIVILIAN POSITION HIMSELF, HE HAS CONTINUED TO REFLECT MILITARY VIEWS IN HIS INITIAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS. DARYATMO IS EXPECTED, HOWEVER, TO USE A QUIET STYLE IN SMOOTHING OVER DIFFERENCES

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PAGE 02 JAKART 06486 190608Z

OF OPINION IN ATTEMPTING TO REACH THE TRADITIONAL PARLIAMENTARY CONSENSUS ON CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. GENERAL DARYATMO, CHIEF OF STAFF OF KOPKAMTIB FROM LATE MARCH UNTIL HIS APPOINTMENT AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT MAY 9, WAS ELECTED TO THE DUAL POSITION OF CHAIRMAN OF

PARLIAMENT (DPR) AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PEOPLE'S CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY (MPR) BY UNANIMOUS VOTE MAY 18. DARYATMO IS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES (ABRI) FACTION, BUT RECEIVED THE NOMINATIONS OF THE OTHER THREE FACTIONS AS WELL. THE POSITION HAD BEEN VACANT SINCE FORMER CHAIRMAN ADAM MALIK WAS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT IN MARCH. THE MPR WILL PROBABLY NOT MEET AGAIN DURING ITS FIVE-YEAR TERM UNLESS UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES ARISE, BUT THE DPR HAS BEEN IN SESSION SINCE MAY 1 WITHOUT A REGULAR CHAIRMAN. DARYATMO WILL BE FORMALLY INSTALLED MAY 20.

3. A CAREER INFANTRY OFFICER FROM SOLO, CENTRAL JAVA, DARYATMO SERVED FOR MANY YEARS IN THE DIPONEGORO DIVISION, WHERE HE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE EARNED THE TRUST OF PRESIDENT SUHARTO. HE JOINED SUHARTO IN OPERATIONS TO SUPPRESS THE REBELLION IN SULAWESI IN THE EARLY '50'S. HE ATTENDED THE U.S. ARMY COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE IN 1958, AND THAT SAME YEAR WAS APPOINTED CHIEF OF STAFF OF SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS AGAINST REBEL FORCES IN WEST SUMATRA. HE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE MILITARY ACTIONS TO PUT DOWN THE COMMUNIST COUP ATTEMPT OF 1965. IN 1969 DARYATMO WAS APPOINTED CHIEF OF THE FUNCTIONAL STAFF, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND SECURITY, AND FOR NINE YEARS CONTROLLED THE ASSIGNMENTS OF MILITARY OFFICERS TO POLITICAL-MILITARY AND SOCIO-POLITICAL POSITIONS IN CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMS AND CIVIL ADMINISTRATION.

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PAGE 03 JAKART 06486 190608Z

4. AFTER GOVERNMENT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MUSLIM-BACKED DEVELOPMENT UNITY PARTY (PPP) FAILED TO PRODUCE AN ACCEPTABLE PPP CANDIDATE FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF PARLIAMENT, DARYATMO WAS APPOINTED TO FILL A DPR VACANCY WITH THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT HE WAS DESTINED FOR THE TOP JOB. HE TOLD REPORTERS HE DID NOT MIND BEING ASSIGNED TO PARLIAMENT, ADDING THAT HE WAS WILLING TO GO WHEREEVER THE ARMED FORCES WANTED TO SEND HIM. IN SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS, DARYATMO OBSERVED THAT WHILE IT WOULD BE IDEAL IF VILLAGERS WOULD TAKE PART IN POLITICS, THE IMPORTANT THING NOW WAS TO CARRY OUT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS SO THAT THE PEOPLE NEED NOT BE DISTURBED BY POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. HE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH PARLIAMENT HAD THE RIGHT TO INITIATE LEGISLATION, BILLS HAVE BEEN DRAFTED BY THE GOVERNMENT BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT KNOWS WHAT IS NEEDED. WHEN ASKED WHETHER SOME MP'S WERE AFRAID TO VOICE THEIR VIEWS FOR FEAR OF BEING RECALLED, DARYATMO REPLIED THAT PARLIAMENTARY FACTIONS HAD TO IMPOSE DISCIPLINE ON THEIR MEMBERS, AND A RECALL WAS A FORM OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

5. COMMENT. DARYATMO WILL FIND FEW COUP ATTEMPTS

ORIGINATING IN THE DPR, BUT HIS INITIAL STATEMENTS SUGGEST  
THAT AS CHAIRMAN HE WILL STAND FOR NO NONSENSE FROM  
DISSIDENT MEMBERS OR FACTIONS. HE IS KNOWN, HOWEVER, FOR  
HIS QUIET APPROACH TO PROBLEMS, AND WILL PROBABLY ATTEMPT  
TO HANDLE ANY POLITICAL CONFLICTS WHICH ARISE IN THE  
SMOOTH MANNER SO DEAR TO THE JAVANESE HEART. THE  
CONSENSUS TRADITION WAS BROKEN MOMENTARILY BY THE VOTES  
AND WALKOUTS IN THE MPR DELIBERATIONS IN MARCH, AND  
DARYATMO WILL OBVIOUSLY BE TRYING TO RE-ESTABLISH THE  
TRADITION AS THE DPR TAKES UP ITS REGULAR SCHEDULE OF  
BUSINESS.

MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, POLITICAL LEADERS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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